

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575
Facsimile: 601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending April 20, 2003

Released: 3:00 P.M., April 21, 2003

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 20, 2003**. Superb weather all week allowed major gains in planting progress for Mississippi row crops. Soil moisture was rated 8 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2002	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	96	84	81	80	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	76	56	57	60	--	--	--	--	--
Cotton	Planted	10	--	4	5	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Planted	29	11	17	29	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	8	2	3	8	--	--	--	--	--
Sorghum	Planted	20	7	19	25	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	5	1	0	10	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Planted	30	15	4	15	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	15	6	0	7	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	96	90	88	93	1	5	43	47	4
	Heading	38	5	45	60	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	31	20	9	7	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	61	56	68	52	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						2	6	26	57	9
Pasture						1	12	35	46	6

County Agent Comments

"Corn is virtually all planted and what has emerged looks pretty good. Early MG Soybeans have just about all been planted. The weather last week allowed a lot of seedbed preparation for cotton."

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

"While some farms are still too wet to support heavy equipment, others are getting dry. Corn planted just prior to the heavy rain is struggling to emerge because of crusting in tilled fields. I expect widespread cotton planting to start this week."

— Sonia Hancock, Rankin

"Farmers spent most of the week fertilizing hay fields, planting corn, harvesting winter annuals and planting gardens. Some early planted melons have suffered cold damage."

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

"Wonderful weather all week allowed farming operations to proceed in full force. Ryegrass bale silage and dry hay harvest continues with many producers following harvest with nitrogen topdress applications as they hope to get a second cutting in three to four weeks. Corn planting is almost complete with planted acreage germinating with nearly perfect stands. Soil preparation is underway to plant summer annual grasses such as pearl millet or sorghum sudan. Many dairy producers will be planting these forage crops for extended summer grazing and hay production. They are greatly reducing their corn for silage acres or are not planting corn at all due to budget constraints dictated by terribly low milk prices."

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Rye grass is really growing and some cattle have already been pulled so hay can be harvested. Corn has been planted, but there was some loss due to wet soils. Cattle are not in the best of shape due to a wet, cold winter, but are recovering some body condition. Many gardens are being planted at this time. Weeds in pastures are growing and some fields are heavily infested with thistle.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Less than one-half inch of rain fell on Sunday. This will not keep growers out of the field very long. Good progress was made last week in planting all crops and getting ground ready to plant.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“The rain we received Sunday evening was less than two-tenths and should not slow us down. There will be some cotton planted later this week.”

— Stephen Winters, Grenada

“North winds and sunshine have reduced soil moisture from excess to dry and dusty conditions on the surface in less than a week. Planting is in full swing with cotton and grain sorghum planting following Group IV soybean planting.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Work conditions have been great this week.”

— Thomas E. Brewer, Jefferson Davis

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director**

**Southern Regional Climate Center
Louisiana State University
Elizabeth Mons
Service Climatologist**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician**

Weather Summary from April 14, 2003 to April 20, 2003 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				62		0.09	-1.24	1	2.67				
Cleveland	84	53	69	62	+7	0.00	-1.21	0	2.92				
Tunica	87	54	70	62	+8	0.92	-0.41	1	2.85	76	58	68	0.37
Extreme/Average	87	53	70	64	+6	0.34	-0.85	1	2.81	76	58	68	0.37
2. North-Central													
Batesville				61		0.37	-0.82	1	2.85				
Calhoun City				62		0.04	-1.29	1	5.61				
Independence	82	51	67	60	+7	0.65	-0.47	2	3.71				
Oxford	85	52	68	60	+8	0.29	-0.90	1	3.48				
Extreme/Average	85	51	67	62	+5	0.34	-0.90	1	3.91				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	83	54	67	60	+7	0.62	-0.57	1	4.57				
Corinth City				63		0.35	-0.84	1	4.14				
Iuka	83	44	64	58	+6	0.54	-0.62	1	3.88				
Ripley				59		0.54	-0.72	2	3.78				
Tupelo						0.40		1	4.44				
Extreme/Average	83	44	66	62	+4	0.49	-0.77	1	4.16				
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				64		0.00	-1.33	0	3.03				
Rolling Fork	87	55	73	64	+9	0.00	-1.30	0	3.53	90	60	76	
Stoneville				64		0.00	-1.26	0	2.92				0.35
Yazoo City	85	49	69	65	+4	0.00	-1.38	0	5.63				
Extreme/Average	87	49	71	65	+6	0.00	-1.19	0	3.78	90	60	76	0.35
5. Central													
Canton	84	48	67	64	+3	0.00	-1.33	0	5.64				
Carthage	86	48	68	62	+6	0.00	-1.33	0	5.12				
Lexington				62					4.77				
Eupora	86	46	68	61	+7	0.02	-1.24	1	3.84				
Extreme/Average	86	46	68	64	+4	0.01	-1.25	0	4.87				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	85	52	68	61	+7	0.10	-1.11	1	3.38				0.17
Houston	85	43	66	60	+6	0.03	-1.17	1	4.53				
Louisville	84	49	67	61	+6	0.00	-1.33	0	5.72				
State University	87	46	69	62	+7	0.06	-1.25	1	4.07	88	62	70	0.19
Extreme/Average	87	43	68	64	+4	0.05	-1.28	1	4.43	88	62	70	0.18
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	85	52	70	65	+5	0.00	-1.40	0	1.19	86	63	74	
Natchez	86	47	69	66	+3	0.00	-1.40	0	2.85				
Oakley				64		0.00	-1.39	0	3.77				
Vicksburg	85	54	70			0.00		0	8.73				
Extreme/Average	86	47	70	66	+4	0.00	-1.26	0	4.14	86	63	74	
8. South-Central													
Collins				64		0.00	-1.26	0	1.62				
Columbia	85	52	70	65	+5	0.00	-1.38	0	3.16				
Tylertown	87	51	70	66	+4	0.00	-1.32	0	6.55				
Extreme/Average	87	51	70	66	+4	0.00	-1.26	0	3.78				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	88	50	70			0.00		0	3.99				
Hattiesburg	85	50	70	66	+4	0.00	-1.26	0	3.56				
Laurel	86	51	71	64	+7	0.00	-1.19	0	4.98				
Newton	85	47	67	62	+5	0.00	-1.39	0	6.96	83	55	68	0.20
Extreme/Average	88	47	69	66	+3	0.00	-1.19	0	4.87	83	55	68	0.20
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	87	48	69	66	+3	0.00	-1.22	0	5.12				
Gulfport	83	56	72	68	+4	0.00	-1.13	0	3.39				
Pascagoula				65		0.00	-0.99	0	2.62				
Poplarville	86	53	71	66	+5	0.00	-1.24	0	5.29	86	60	74	0.29
Waveland	83	54	70	66	+4	0.00	-1.33	0	4.65				
Extreme/Average	87	48	70	68	+2	0.00	-1.05	0	4.21	86	60	74	0.29
State	88	43	69	65	+4	0.10	-1.13	0	4.19	90	55	72	0.28

DFN = Departure from Normal.